AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A polyamide comprising a compound which includes at least one hydroxy group and has chemical bonding by way of an amide group to the end of the polymer chain, where the compound which includes at least one hydroxy group is a linear, unbranched alkanemonocarboxylic acid which includes at least one terminal hydroxy group and wherein the compound which includes at least one hydroxy group is present in the range from 0.001 to 2 mol%, based on 1 mole of amide groups of the polyamide.

2. (Previously Presented) The polyamide as claimed in claim 1, where the unbranched monocarboxylic acid has the formula
$HO - (CH_2)_n - COOH$
where n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, or 15.

3. (Previously Presented) The polyamide as claimed in claim 1, where the unbranched monocarboxylic acid has the formula
$HO - (CH_2)_5 - COOH$.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presently) A process for preparing the polyamide as claimed in claim 1 comprising providing monomers suitable for forming a polyamide and a linear, unbranched alkanemonocarboxylic acid which includes at least one terminal hydroxy group, and polymerizing the monomers in the presence of the unbranched alkanemonocarboxylic acid.

6. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing the polyamide as claimed in claim 1 comprising, providing oligomers suitable for forming a polyamide and a linear, unbranched alkanemonocarboxylic acid which includes at least one terminal hydroxy group, and polymerizing the oligomers in the presence of the unbranched alkanemonocarobxylic acid.

7. (Previously Presented) A fiber comprising the polyamide as claimed in claim 1.

8. (Previously Presented) A film comprising the polyamide of claim 1.

9. (Previoulsy Presented) A molding comprising the polyamide of claim 1.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) The polyamide as claimed in claim 1 that is end-capped with an unbranched C_1-C_{15} alkane with at least one terminal hydroxyl group.

12. (Previously Presented) The polyamide of claim 11 where the unbranched alkane is an attached n-pentanol.

13. (Previously Presented) The polyamide as claimed in claim 1 comprising monomeric or oligomeric units of an arylaliphatic lactam or aliphatic lactam, where the polyamide is end-capped with an unbranched C_1-C_{15} alkane with at least one terminal hydroxyl group.

14. (Previously Presented) The polyamide of claim 13 where the monomeric or oligomeric units are selected from the group consisting of enantholactam, undecanolactam, dodecanolactam and caprolactam.

15. (Previously Presented) The polyamide of claim 13 where the monomeric or oligomeric units are based on caprolactam and the polyamide is end-capped by the reaction of 6-hydroxycaproic acid.

16. (Previously Presented) The polyamide of claim 15 in combination with an inorganic or organic pigment.

17. (Previously Presented) The polyamide as claimed in claim 1 prepared by a process comprising:

providing monomers or oligomers selected from an arylaliphatic or aliphatic lactam, aminocarboxylic acids or aminocarbonitriles;

providing an unbranched alkanemonocarboxylic acid having at least one terminal hydroxyl group; and

polymerizing the monomer or the oligomers in the presence of the unbranched alkanemonocarboxylic acid to provide a polyamide that is end-capped with an unbranched alkane having at least one terminal hydroxyl group.

18. (Previously Presented) The polyamide of claim 17 where the monomeric or oligomeric units are based on caprolactam and the alkanemonocarboxylic acid is 6-hydroxycaproic acid.